

To: Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund Advisory Board -  
From: Nancy Selman  
Date: June 3, 2004  
Re: Meeting Minutes for May 11, 2004

Next meeting dates: Second Tuesday of every month. For 2004: 6/8, 7/13, 8/10, 9/14, 10/12, 11/9, 12/14

In attendance: See attached Attendance List.

- 1) April Meeting Minutes and June Update
  - a) Minutes from the April meeting were circulated during the May meeting.
  - b) Update – A question on the URI wind project came up: Why does the Fund want to subsidize a “small wind project?” The project being proposed for URI is from 250 kw to 1 MW. Wind projects behind the meter at the upper end of this range can be competitive with retail electricity costs; at the lower end of the range the cost is much less than PV but more than retail electricity from the grid and would likely require subsidy.
- 2) Save the Bay – A request was not received yet for the display for the new building. Janice McClanaghan said that Save the Bay is receiving grant money from Rebuild America for the display and care should be taken to make certain Fund money is not going to the same purpose.
- 3) CSG/Shaws – CSG has requested that they be able to change the green power product they sell to Shaws; switching the 100% new renewables ReGen product for the 15% new renewables GreenerWatts product (being used in the GreenUp program) without changing the level of the Fund’s Large Customer Incentive. The Board:
  - a) Approved payment of an incentive at 15% of the level of the ReGen incentive;
  - b) Agreed that the GreenerWatts product should be marketed to Shaws grocery store customers, as this was consistent with the Narragansett Electric GreenUp program;
  - c) Asked for updated marketing plan for selling GreenerWatts in stores;
  - d) Would be willing to entertain an alternate proposal from CSG and Shaws.
- 4) University Program – The Board voted to approve URI’s request for funding interns: 5 interns and administrative costs for a total budget of \$15,000. In addition, the subcommittee will continue to further develop the overall program and the coordinator role, tapping into, modeling after or dovetailing into existing structures if possible, either at the regional or national level.
- 5) Community Energy – The new terms and conditions for Community Energy’s NewWind Energy® and Water meet the requirements of the Small Customer Program regarding cancellation of the product – i.e., to receive Small Customer Incentive Funding, customers must be served for a minimum of 2 years.
- 6) Solar on Schools Data Acquisition RFP – Chris Warfel presented his recommendation to proceed with negotiations with Heliotronics for 12 data acquisition and monitoring systems via a powerpoint presentation. David Jacobson submitted comments in writing to the Board. The Board approved moving forward with the negotiations with Heliotronics.
- 7) “Scholarship fund” for Green-e certification- In April 2004, the Board voted to not approve a request from CRS to use Fund money to defray the cost of Green-e certification for marketers in RI. At the May meeting, a proposal for the Fund to set up such a scholarship fund internally was discussed, but not approved. The concept may be revisited in a year based on whether and how CRS restructures its fees pursuant to the terms and conditions of the \$25,000 grant being provided to CRS for Green-e certification and verification activities in RI.

- 8) RECA Aggregation Green Power Purchase –Bob Grace provided an update on this activity: Mark Crowdis is working on analysis of spot market prices by time of day for the past 12 months to be used to determine the average base price of the wind energy under the proposed transaction with the vendor (without the green premium.) The strike price (combined commodity electricity and green premium price) will be finalized by vendor in next couple of days. During the discussions, the subject of RECA members purchasing a wind hedge without the RECs has come up. Kurt Teichert made the point that this is easier for an institution to do because it is cheaper, and, as a result, has an attendant higher probability of getting done. The need for the Fund to provide an incentive with a simple structure was also pointed out.
- 9) RPS Update – Kate Canada provided an update on RPS legislation.

Decisions:

- 1) CSG/Shaws - A decision was made to allow only 15% of the current level of Large Customer Incentive (established for ReGen, a 100% new renewables product) for GreenerWatts if sold to Shaws.
- 2) URI Fellowship – The Board approved a \$15,000 request by URI for 5 student fellowships and associated administrative costs.
- 3) Community Energy – The terms and conditions of NewWind Energy and Water were accepted for the purposes of participation in the Small Customer program.
- 4) Solar on Schools Data Acquisition – Approval was given for Chris Warfel to negotiate with Heliotronics.
- 5) Green-e “Scholarship Fund” – A decision was made to not set up a scholarship fund at this time.

Actions:

- 1) CSG/Shaws – a letter will be sent to CSG explaining the Fund’s decision not to provide the same level of incentive and other points.
- 2) University Fellowships - A letter will be sent to URI regarding the fellowship grant. Work will continue on a university fellowship program that includes other schools in Rhode Island.
- 3) Solar on Schools Data Acquisition – Chris Warfel will commence negotiations with Heliotronics.

Attendance:

Buck, Roger  
Canada, Kate  
Capobianco, Julie  
Grace, Bob  
Hartley, Doug  
Jacobson, David  
Keller, Janet  
Lueker, William  
McClanaghan, Janice  
Moskal, John  
Rose, Vin  
Ryan, Eleanor  
Selman, Nancy  
Stearns, David  
Stephens, Erich  
Teichert, Kurt

Vild, Bruce  
Ward, Harold